

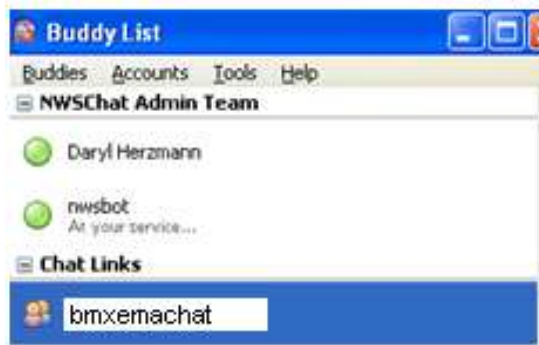
Here is how to change your handle if you already have pidgin and your chat rooms set up.

We here at the National Weather Service would like to make chat the most productive and useful experience out there. With that said when a message is typed in to us, it would be very beneficial to know exactly who the chat is coming from and where you are located. This not only helps us locate you, but also get the information back to you quickly.

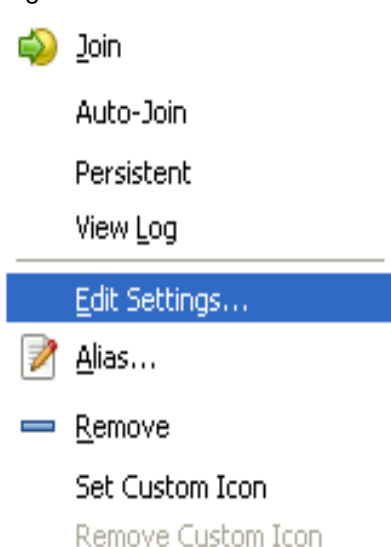
Below will be a quick method to change the handle to the preferred method. (It needs to be noted that the latest updates of Pidgin make it much easier to change handles, so if you use Pidgin you may want to download the latest version. It can be found here <http://www.pidgin.im>

This change in handles can be done in two ways.

1. More Efficient
 - a. In your buddy list

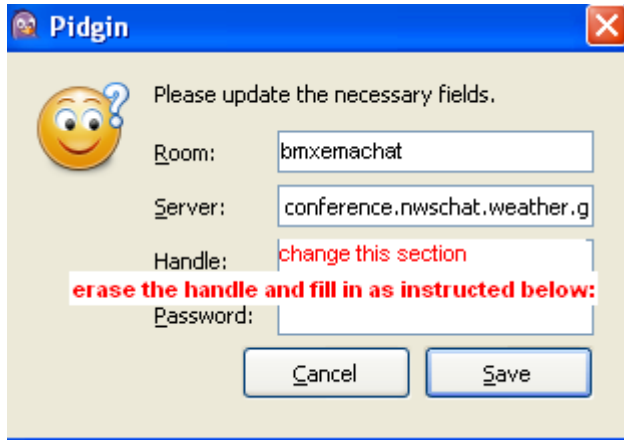


- b. Right Click in bmxemachat and select Edit Settings, a new window will pop up.



(If you cannot see the “EDIT SETTINGS” sections then you have an older version of pidgin and will need to use the MORE DIRECT way below or install the newest version of Pidgin.

- c. Change the handle (See above section for methods)



- i. For DOT

1. Erase the current handle and enter the one below for your specification.
2. Handle: **aldot-county or city-lastname** (if you are a state only dot then use "al" for county.
 - a. For example, aldot-shelby-aaron
 - b. aldot-alabaster-aaron
 - c. Statewide: aldot-al-aaron:
3. Hit Save
4. Double click the bmxemachat to open up chat.

2. Most Direct

- a. Delete you current chatroom "bmxemachat"
- b. Add new chatroom (bmxemachat), with the new preferred handle (see above section for methods)